

MEETING MINUTES

Parks, Open Space and Trails Advisory Board – March 23, 2022

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chris Miller, Hilarie Engle, Eric Plotkin, Helen Carter (via phone)

ABSENT: Kari Kostka, Chuck Vertrees, Emily Reaves

STAFF PRESENT: Scott Koberg, Mike Edwards, Candy Hahlbeck, Robbie Sosin

OTHERS: Brandy Wilson (Idaho Foundation for Parks & Lands)

INTRODUCTION:

C. Miller called the meeting to order at 12:02 p.m.

No conflicts of interest were declared by Advisory Board members. H. Engle moved to approve the February 23rd minutes. E. Plotkin seconded. Motion passed.

BARBER POOL MASTER PLAN UPDATE-BRANDY WILSON:

Brandy Wilson supplied an update on the Barber Pool Master Plan process. The Barber Pool Advisory Council has been working of the last couple years on a Master Plan for the entire conservation area. The objective is to come to an agreement on what the overall vision is for management and stewardship there. Brandy went over Table 1 of the plan which is Goals, Objectives and Key Management Strategies. Goal 1 is to protect and enhance wildlife and fish habitat. Goal 2 is to manage human use to minimize disturbance. Goal 3 is to provide public outreach and education. C. Miller inquired if there are any current user groups that will be most impacted by this plan. Brandy explained that there is a lot of trespass and recreational trail build going on by neighbors in that area. Another group is the standup paddleboard community. They would need some targeted outreach about this conservation area. Brandy went on to show the same map of the conservation area that showed planning boundaries, property ownership, management zone, wildlife access, habitat restoration and management for human use. C. Miller inquired how binding the agreement for each of the stakeholders was. Brandy responded not at all. That's why this is an acknowledgement and not an adoption plan. Brandy went on to explain this map and the concept changes that they are looking at making for a balance of human use and wildlife preservation. C. Miller asked about timeframe for implementation. Brandy responded that it's up to the individual partners. He went on to ask S. Koberg where the county stands on their portion. He has set aside \$15,000 for fiscal year 2023 budget for Open Space and Conservation maintenance. He went on to say that we interested in potential partner opportunities to bring planting and restoration efforts to the County's portion. C. Miller asked if there was anything the Parks Board could do to help. S Koberg responded that the next time a site visit is planned, to attend. He would like to get everyone's thoughts and ideas. He also wants to make sure all Board members get a copy of the Barber Pool Master Plan.

SUBCOMITTEE REPORTS:

C. Miller inquired when the next trail day is. M. Edwards responded that SWIMBA's Director is leaving. The last trail day wasn't posted anywhere, so it won't be happening.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

S. Koberg supplied an update on ARPA projects. We obtained submittals for the RFP for the bridges and pathways. The Board made a recommendation to award the bid to Bricon. We are currently negotiating the contract with them. The other APRA is the RFQ portion of the Sunroc Greenbelt. Currently we have a submittal deadline of April 1st.

For this year's budget process, S. Koberg has submitted a CIP for an updated to the Parks, Open Space and Trails Master Plan. If funding is obtained, the Parks Board will be engaged as stakeholders. This

will include hiring a consultant, revising the Department Master Plan and over time nesting site-specific plans. This will start in October if funding is obtained.

OPEN SPACE & TRAILS:

M. Edwards provided an update on his activities.

Oregon Trail-The broken gate has been replaced. There is another section of the Meeker Loop that can be armored. C. Miller inquired if there has been any movement with the BLM when it comes to armoring parts of their trail. M. Edwards responded that he has been speaking with them and that it would be another year before they would be able to do a conditional exemption.

Ada/Eagle Bike Park-Davey and M. Edwards have been rebuilding the Flow Trail and Shake n’ Bake. They are in the process of rebuilding the jumps and landings. C. Miller inquired when they would be done. M. Edwards responded that it should be open by this weekend. The jumps will take more time. He was thankful that him and Davey put fences up this winter and closed the trails. It helped keep the trails in good shape this year. C. Miller inquired if M. Edwards was familiar with a Facebook group called Boise Mountain Bikers. M Edwards responded that he thought he was. C. Miller went onto say that this group has been communicative about the status of the Bike Park as to when it was open or not. They have been really good about answering questions as to the status of trails. C. Miller has been happy to see users, in a public forum, being supportive about the way the Park is being managed. E. Plotkin inquired if that was something Robbie could connect with Boise Mountain Bikers group to provide information straight from the source. R. Sosin responded that M. Edwards has access to the Bike Park Facebook page and they would be able to coordinate.

Hubbard- M. Edwards passed out the Hubbard Reservoir Improvement Plan. He went through each of the chapters and talked a bit about them. One of the major projects is the replacement of the barbed wire fencing. There is about 2000 feet that will be replaced with post and pole fencing. The gravel in the parking lot needs to be re-graveled. Long term projects include architectural gravel placed around the pit toilet, planting trees and placing benches near this area. Maps on the kiosk needs to be updated. M. Edwards went through the existing trails and trails he would like to add, including a trail without much slope that could be used by people in wheelchairs. Habitat restoration is also on the list of projects. This includes planting sagebrush. In the cottonwood forest section, planting grasses and pollinators. M. Edwards has met with Martha from City of Boise and Ada County Weed and Pest to help him understand what kind of herbicides would be need as well as costs.

PROGRAM AND EDUCATION SPECIALIST REPORT:

Robbie provided an update on his activities. The new Current issue went out today as well as emailed to a small number of people and posted on social media. The photo contest has also started. He has received his audio/video equipment. He will be using this to make exciting videos in the future.

ADJOURNMENT

C. Miller adjourned the meeting at 1:16 p.m.